The Savages Were Overhwelming in Numbers, and Mishap and Misunderstanding Did the Rest,



another bloody act in the terrible scene in the Yellowstone region for a quarter of a century. The bloodiest period in that drama marks the slaughter of Custer and bis deoted band, and in this Sitting Bull took part, either in person or through followers whom be inspired.

The most imthe time was Crazy Horse, who, like Sitting Bull, was simply head man of a band and not a tribal chief. The warshout 250. In the early spring of 1876 repeated hostilities on the part of these roving bands toward white settlers and friendly Indians in Montana and Dakota stirred the government to some action to bring them under subjection. It was no posed to surround them and offer the usual

The Indians were on the Yellowstone or the indians were on the Teilowstone or its tributaries, and a column of troops un-der Gen. Terry and another under Gen. Crook started from opposite directions with the purpose of hemming them in. Terry was on the north along the Yellowstone, and had with him two bodies of in-fantry and cavalry, one led by himself and the other by Col. John Gibbon. Custer was with Terry, and commanded the Seventh cavalry. While the column was halted near the mouth of Resebud river a scouting expedition struck a fresh lodge pole trail leading toward Big Horn river, a stream parallel with the Rosebud and thirty to fifty miles west of it. Terry di-vided his forces into two columns, one led by Gibbon, comprising all the infactry and four troops of cavalry, to move along the Yellowstone to the Big Horn and then southward along that stream, closing in on the redskins from the north, and the other, consisting of the Seventh cavalry, led by Custer, to move southward along the Rose bud until he struck the Indian trail.



MAP-THE FATAL MARCH.

Terry accompanied Gibbon's column, and gave Custer discretionary powers as to his action after striking the trail. He stated to Custer that he believed the trail would lead toward Little Big Horn, a tributary of Big Horn draining a hilly region between that river and the Rosebud, and expressed the opinion that Custer had best not follow it in that case, but continue southward a specified distance, and then swing in westward toward Little Big Horn, to prevent the escape of the Indians south or southeast should they fiee before Gibbon's column. Custer started from the ervations. mouth of the Rosebud June 22, and on the morning of June 25 crossed the "divide" between Rosebud and Little Big Horn, following the trail into a little valley leading to the latter stream.

Custer left no explanation of his reason for following the trail instead of continu-ing on southward, as Terry suggested. He consulted with his officers and scouts about crossing the divide in the presence of Indi-ans who had been seen, and after crossing umn, 1,000 strong, on its march north to it and reaching the sheltering valley separated his regiment into four bodies and gave orders to sweep down on a wide circuit to the river. Custer, with Companies C, E, F. I and L. kept straight ahead. Maj. Reno, with three companies, marched on the opposite side of the valley stream, and Capt, Benteen, with three companies, marched on the left of Reno. A company under Capt. McDougal was left with the pack train. Reno and Custer moved within sight of each other during the forenoon,



Col. Tom Custer. Capt. Calhoun. Gen. Custer. Boston Custer. Capt. Calhoun.

THE CUSTER FAMILY OF VICTIMS. and about 11 o'clock Custer signaled Reno to rejoin him, and an hour later instructed him to move forward and charge. The recall of Reno from the center made a wide interval between the right and left wings under Custer and Benteen, and as Reno went ahead in direct advance of Custer the gap remained unclosed. Benteen went on, as ordered, an hour and a half, and not finding Indians closed in to the right, reed the little valley, and regained the main trail in rear of Custer.

The column was thus moving in four bodies on the same route in the following order: Reno, Custer, Benteen, McDougal. Reno dashed ahead, reached Little Big Horn and crossed, hearing nothing further from Coster. Benteen, after recrossing the little valley to the main route, met a man of Custer's column returning with an order to McDougal to hurry forward the pack train. Later a messenger from headquar-

Benteca to come on quick; there was a big village ahead. These two communications were the last that passed between any soul of Custer's party and any known survivor,

excepting one, from the time Reno parted tompany with them. The exception was an Indian scout, who served Custer as such, and during the fight disguised himself as a Sioux and escaped. His story is corroborated in part by the tes-

The same

hostiles, and by the position of the bodies of Custer and his followers, as found. It appears that Custer followed Reno to the point where the latter crossed Little Big Horn, and kept on down the east bank of the stream four miles, thinking that Reno's attack world fall upon one and of the sile. The True Story of the Custer

Massacre.

Massacre.

the stream four miles, thinking that Keno's attack would fall upon one end of the village and that he would attack the other.

The high bluff of the river prevented his attacking where he wished, and when finally he reached a ford the Indians met lays by her jacket and hangs up her hat, lays by her jacket and ha THE RECORD OF GREAT HEROISM. Custer then dismounted his men and gradually retired in the face of superior numbers, seizing the most defensible positions he could find. For several hours these were defended, the officers and men falling in the order in which they stood in the ranks. The Indians charged again and again, and Custer went about among his men animating them until he fell very

near the last. The scout stated that when the fight seemed hopeless he went to Custer and offered to help him to escape; that the gal-lant soldier thought a moment, with a characteristic poise of the head, then, seeing the Indians pouring down for a fresh at-tack, waved the tempter away and joined a knot of men to fight his last. The story told by Kill Eagle is to the effect that an attack, was made on the southern end of the Indian camp by troops from across the river (Reno), but was soon repulsed, the troops recrossing to a bluff, where they were joined by other troops (Benteen and McDougal). The hostiles returned to the village after repulsing this attack on the south, and were immediately summoned to meet troops coming across the river on the east (Custer). The war-riors all deserted the village and crossed the stream to fight. After several hours they returned, stating that the soldiers had all been killed. Then they crossed the stream again to the hill and attacked the troops there (Reno, Benteen and McDou-

gal).
The movements of Custer after he made an ineffectual attempt to cross Little Big Horn at the ford were indicated by the positions of the bodies found by Gen. Terry when he reached the mournful scene. Three-fourths of a mile from the stream lay Calhoun's company in an irregular line. They had fought facing the river. A mile distant lay Capt. Keegh's company, facing back toward Calhoun's position. A mile farther lay Capt.r

Yates' company, with other officers, indicating that at this point a general stand had been made. This position faced northeast, showing that the Indians had made acircuitousmarch and headed off the troops, causing them to fight with their backs to the river. Gen. Custer, Col. Cook, the ndjutant, Capt. Yates and Capt. Tom Custer Lieut. Riley and RENO. thirty-two men 1 1st Position fell here. A mile from this point and near the

er a last stand had been made, and here some of Capt. Smith's VALLEY OF DEATH. company lay in VALLEY OF DEATH.

tween this point and the spot where Custer fell the route was marked with the bodies of twenty-six dend soldiers.

From statements made by hostiles enaged against Custer it is inferred that the Indians encountered him personally, hand

to hand, that he fought desperately with his sword and was shot by one Rain-in-the-Face. Custer's body was not mutilated and his was the only one in the group entirely spared. The number of warriors engaged was estimated by good judges at about 2,500. The bands of Crazy Horse and Sitting Bull were present, and Crazy Horse was the inspiring genius on the Indian side. The savages had large re-enforcements from the neighboring res-The number of troopers with Custer was 277. A monument on the crest where Cus-

tional cemetery.

Terry's column numbered 1,100 men in all, and all the tribes in the vicinity sent their warriors to the camp on Little Big Horn to overwhelm whatever troops had umn, 1,000 strong, on its march north to co-operate with Terry had attacked these same Indians near the head waters of the Rosebud the week previous, and meeting with defeat had returned south without effecting a junction with Terry. Terry reached Custer's battlefield two days after GEORGE L. KILMER.

THE INDIAN'S CHALLENGE.

Blaze with your serried columns,
I will not bend the knee;
Your shackles ne'er again shall bind
The arm which now is free.
I've mailed it with the thunder,
When the tempests muttered low,
And where it falls ye well may dread
The lightning of its blow!

I've scared ye in the city, I've scared ye in the chian;
I've scalped ye on the plain;
Go, count your chosen where they fell
Beneath my leaden rain!
I scorn your proferred treaty!
The paleface I defy!

Revenge is stamped upon my spear, And Blood! my battle cry!

Some strike for hope of booty, Some to defend their all. I battle for the joy I have To see the white man fall; I love, among the wounded, To hear his dying moan, And catch, while chanting at his side.

The music of his groan. Ye've trailed me through the forest, Ye've tracked me der the stream, And struggling through the everglade, Your bristling bayonets gleam; But I stand as should the warrior,

With his rifle and his spear; The scalp of vengeance still is red, And warns ye—come not here!

I loath ye in my bosom.
I scorn ye with mine eye,
And I'll tunnty e with my latest breath.
And fight ye till I die!

And I got ye that doe:
I ne'er will ask ye quarter,
And I ne'er will be your slave,
But I'll swim the sea of slaughter
Till I sink beneath its wave!
-G. W. Patten from an old collection). Dolls of the latest pattern are now man-ufactured in great numbers in England

and in this country. Yet these countries continue to import some of the cheaper kinds from Germany. The extent to which dolls are manufactured in England may be judged from the statement made a few years ago in the house of commons that a manufacturer had an order for £300 worth of dolls' eyes.

Millions of money are no compensation for frail physical and mental powers. The acility to enjoy life, which health alone can give, is a jewel more precious than pearls and rubies.

His Ambition Nipped. A smart little boy in Utica is-or was rather—ambitious to be a letter carrier. A few days ago he secretly secured a bundle of old love letters that his mother had treasured since the courtship days, and distributed them from house to house through-out the neighborhood. The sequel is not related, but the probability is that this bright youth has no further aspiration in the letter carrier line.—Columbus EnTHE MERRY MUSE.

Her Tyrant Master. With cheeks aglow from kisses of the frost, Blue laughing eyes and shining hair, wind tossed,

Beside the register, to warm her hands. I look up, at her soft "good morning;" then I mumble "morning," and lay down my pen. And then her task begins, and, like a Turk, I keep her-how remorselessly-at work!

She's my typewriter yet, and I'm her "boss," I hear her tell the bookkeeper I'm "cross," And "hard to please." Great Scott that isn'tit.

If she could only know how hard I'm hit! Oh, yes, I scold you, dear; I mag and yell Only because you please me far too well; Also, because I'd like to knock in two

The tall young fellow who walks home with -Madeline S. Bridges in Puck.

Rise and Fall of a Poet. There once was a poet who wrote a lay In a new and quite original way, It pleased the boxes and charmed the gal-

went

up And this is the way

He essayed a second; it excited rage; They say he's now of mind unsound,

For this is the way the E flew

Hanna. Allus the way with the wimmin fokes-

Prouder'n Lucifer;
'Twas that a way with my secont wife,
An' it was the Centh of her. She never gimme a minnit's peace-She tuck it inter 'er head She wanted to live to Tompkinsville-

An' so I swapped th' ol' farm off But we hadn't got rooly straightened up Before the house burnt down— Yis—Yis-sir-ee, the house burnt up Fore we'd got settled down.

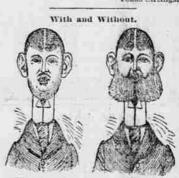
'Twas dredful sudden; fast I knowed In the middle of the night. The neighbors was hollerin' "Fire!" An' everything was a-light; An' there before the lookin' glass Wus Hanner, a-standin' still Her mouth chuck full o' hairnins-A primpin' fit tew kill.

Sez I, "The house is all affre-They hain't no time tew spare— Gesh darn all fishhooks, Hanner, What air you doin' there?"
"Hold on," sex she. "I cain't go out "Till I've did up my hair."

Sez I, "Oh, Helen Blazes!
I'm gettin' toasted brown!
Come! git right couten this winder
Before! I slimy ye down;"
Son she, "How kin I—without my hoops—

B'fore all the folks in teown! Wasi, there she stack like a pup to a reo.
Or a coon in a holler tree.
Dancin' an' velin', "I caint go decwn
A-lookin' the way I be!"
An'-I jumped cout, an' the ruff fell in. in'-I jumped cout, an and An' that wus the last I see of Hanner.

-Texas Siftings.



"I'll raise a beard; WITH THE BEARD. more manly."

Wanted to Know. said the conductor as he went through the railway train. "That little fellow?"

"Why, he is in his childhood, sir."
"Is he?" inquired the conductor, thoughtfully. "First or second, ma'am?"-Wash-

A Long Search. Mr. Jenks (a married man)-Say, Jones, have you seen anything of my wife? I have been looking fifteen minutes to find

Mr. Jones (a bachelor)-Only fifteen minutes? Why, I have been looking for mine fifteen years, and I have not found her yet. -Drake's Magazine.

One Way to Look at It. Cumso-It seems queer to advertise methods of suicide.

Mrs. Cumso-What in the world do you mean? Cumso-Here is an advertisement which

says: "Try a pair of our shoes, and you will never wear another shoe."—Harper's Bazar. A Literal Reason. He-Does Mary still cling to her idea of

being married in April?
She-Yes, that is the last oysier month. He-What has an oyster month got to She—Because it takes an r to make Mary

marry.—Munsey's Weekly. Mr. Younghusband (to his wife)-Where's

Mrs. Y. (whimpering)-She's gone off. Mr. Y.—What's the matter?
Mrs. Y.—I handled her carelessly. I didn't know she was londed.—Washington

Star.

Not So Much to Blame. Horrified Parent-And you dare to tell me you kissed that young Hankinson last evening?

Weeping Daughter - The - the me thing k-kissed me first!-Chicago Tribune.

"What! You venture to come here again when I kicked you out of my house three Book Agent-What a magnificent memory your honor has!-Fliegende Blatter.

On the Road. First Bicyclist-How does this road strike you?

Second Bieyclist (taking a header from the wreck of the machine)—Quite forcibly. Fres.—Yankee Blade. AT DEATH'S DOOR.

AT DEATH'S DOOR.

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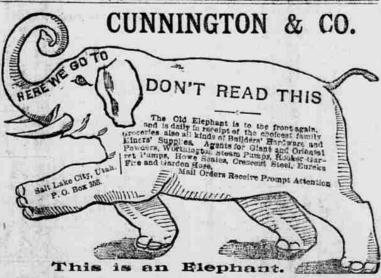
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